AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A portable data terminal comprising:

a bar code reader;

a flexible housing comprising a component rotatable about a junction of the housing and an outer surface with energy absorbing material connected thereto for an initial absorption of a physical shock energy exerted thereupon;

a stiff enclosure for at least partially encapsulating a circuit board; and

a resilient member interposed between the housing and the stiff enclosure, the resilient frame and the stiff enclosure act together to further dampen the physical shock energy.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 1, the flexible housing including a top portion and a lower portion with the rotatable component as part of the top portion.

4. (Previously Presented) The terminal of claim 1, the junction being at a point of connection between a handle of the data terminal and a base of the lower portion.

5. (Original) The terminal of claim 3, the handle comprising rubber insert molding.

6. (Original) The terminal of claim 3, the circuit board has a length shorter than a length of the rotatable component.

7. (Original) The terminal of claim 1, the energy absorbing material comprising a raised bumper assembly.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for mitigating physical shock energy exerted on a hand held terminal comprising:

rotating a portion of the hand held terminal housing about a junction of the housing, the junction being at a point of connection between a handle of the terminal and a base of a lower portion of the housing;

employing a bumper assembly placed on an outer surface of the hand held terminal housing to absorb an initial portion of the shock energy; and

employing an internal bumper system interposed between the housing and at least one circuit board within the housing, to further absorb the shock energy.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising providing portions of the housing that are displaceable with respect to each other such that displacement of the portions further dampens the shock energy.

10-24. (Cancelled)